

**DAVITA E. VANCE-COOKS****Director**

Davita E. Vance-Cooks, Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO), the agency's chief executive officer. A seasoned business executive with more than 30 years of private sector and Federal Government management experience, she is the first woman and first African-American to lead the agency, whose mission since its establishment in 1861 is to *Keep America Informed*. Vance-Cooks' oversaw a historic change to the agency in December 2014 when President Barack Obama signed into law a bill passed by Congress that changed the name of the Government Printing Office to the Government Publishing Office. The word "publishing" better reflects the current role that GPO plays in providing access to Government information in digital format through the agency's Federal Digital System, apps, eBooks, and related technologies. The legislation also changed the title of the GPO's chief executive officer from Public Printer to Director. As the provider of official Federal Government information in digital and printed formats, GPO produces the *Congressional Record*, the *Federal Register*, U.S. passports, and a wide variety of other publications. GPO provides free public access to Government information products through Federal depository libraries nationwide as well as free online access via GPO's Federal Digital System, at www.fdsys.gov.

Biography

Vance-Cooks has held a succession of senior management positions at GPO since joining the agency in 2004. She served as the Deputy Managing Director of Customer Services, with the responsibility of overseeing GPO's liaison with Federal agencies for in-house print production and printing procurement services. She then served as the Managing Director of GPO's Publications and Information Sales business unit, where she oversaw a large print distribution/supply chain operation with customers across the United States. In January 2011, Vance-Cooks was named GPO's Chief of Staff. In that capacity she created and implemented GPO's strategic performance plan and oversaw a buyout program that reduced agency staffing levels by 15%.

In December 2011, Vance-Cooks was named Deputy Public Printer, and in that capacity she served as Acting Public Printer from January 2012-August 2013, the longest such tenure in GPO's history. President Barack Obama nominated Vance-Cooks to be Public Printer on May 9, 2013, and the U.S. Senate confirmed her as the 27th Public Printer on August 1, 2013. Under her leadership GPO has followed a program of cutting costs while improving services, generating positive net income for the agency while expanding the availability of Government information via mobile apps, bulk data download, and ebooks. Her objective has been to move GPO from a print-centric to a content-centric focus in the digital era, a strategy that was validated by a congressionally-mandated study of GPO by the National Academy of Public Administration, issued in January 2013.

Before coming to GPO, Vance-Cooks held several private sector management positions in the health insurance industry. She was the Senior Vice-President of Operations for NYLCare MidAtlantic Health Plan where, among other duties, she was responsible for a digital print work center for production of variable data printing products. She also served as the Director of Customer Service and Claims, Director of Membership and Billing, and Director of Market Research and Product Development for Blue Cross Blue Shield Plans. She also served as the General Manager of HTH Worldwide Insurance Services.

Vance-Cooks holds a B.A. from Tufts University and an M.B.A. from Columbia University.